

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A terminal structure of a direct electric current superconducting cable comprising:

a core material,

a plurality of superconducting layers provided over the core material, and

outgoing conductors made of a normal conductive material, wherein the end portion of each of the superconducting layers is exposed in a step-by-step manner from an outer layer to an inner layer, and the outgoing conductors are individually connected with the exposed end portions of the respective superconducting layers,

layer insulations for insulating between the superconducting layers, and

an insulating fixing member for integrally supporting the core and the outgoing conductors,

wherein an electrical insulation layer, a return-current conductor layer, and an insulating protective layer are provided in the enumerated order over the outermost superconducting layer.

2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The terminal structure of a direct electric current superconducting cable according to claim 1, wherein the outgoing conductors are extended from the exposed portions of the superconducting layers in a direction perpendicular to the axial direction of the superconducting cable electrical insulating layer is formed of a tape consisting of a laminated plastic film and kraft paper, and wherein the layer insulations are formed of kraft paper.

3. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The terminal structure of a direct electric current superconducting cable according to claim 1, wherein the outgoing conductors are extended from the exposed portions of the superconducting layers in a direction along the axial direction of the superconducting cable.

4. – 12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The direct electric current superconducting cable line comprising power supplies, loads and a superconducting cable for supplying electric power from the power supplies to the loads, wherein at least one end of the superconducting cable has a terminal structure according to claim 1, and each outgoing conductor is connected with one of the power supplies or one of the loads.

14. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The direct electric current superconducting cable line comprising power supplies, loads and a superconducting cable for supplying electric power from the power supplies to the loads, wherein at least one end of the superconducting cable has a terminal structure according to claim 2, and each outgoing conductor is connected with one of the power supplies or one of the loads.

15. – 18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The direct electric current superconducting cable line according to claim 13, further comprising a cutoff mechanism for cutting off a superconducting layer of the superconducting cable from the power supply and the load when the superconducting layer is grounded.

20. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The direct electric current superconducting cable line according to claim 13, wherein ~~the superconducting cable has layer insulations for insulating between the superconducting layers, and~~ the layer insulations have dielectric strength sufficient for maintaining the voltage of the other layers when any one of the superconducting layers is grounded.

21. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The direct electric current superconducting cable line according to claim 19, wherein ~~the superconducting cable has layer insulations for insulating between the superconducting layers, and the~~ layer insulations have dielectric strength sufficient for maintaining the voltage of the other layers when any one of the superconducting layers is grounded.

22. (New) The terminal structure of a direct electric current superconducting cable according to claim 2, wherein the layer insulations do not include any laminated plastic film.